“Collectively, We Make a Huge Difference”

“M y $500 contribution is magnified by the donations of other members to become a much larger grant!” enthuses Robin Amato. Her conviction is contagious and has inspired many of us during her two-year tenure as Women United’s Co-Chair.

Robin has also served on both our Event and Grant Committees, and knows the inner-workings of Women United as well as anyone. What does she think is our top priority moving forward? Driving membership!

“There are so many deserving organizations and so much need. It’s hard for one person to make a difference. But collectively, we make a huge difference!”

The more members we have, the greater our impact. As part of our efforts to grow our membership and to appeal to a wider demographic of women in our community, we have made a few changes. The first is to simplify the name of our organization. We are now Women United with the tagline “Together in Philanthropy.” Another exciting change is our new membership structure. Starting with our 2013 Membership Drive, a portion of every membership fee goes into the Collective Fund. Please refer to the Membership Form insert for details.

While our name and logo have changed a little, our mission remains the same: Women United maximizes women’s leadership in philanthropy by engaging and educating its membership, increasing charitable contributions, and strengthening our community through the impact of collective giving to support human services.

As Robin steps down as Women United’s Co-Chair (don’t worry, she’s still on our Steering Committee and a Donor Member!), we are very excited to welcome Maia Bannan to the position. Maia joins Sue Friedman to lead our Steering Committee as Women United Co-Chairs. In addition to driving membership and growing the Collective Fund, their goals include engaging our current members through more creative events and educating our community on issues not commonly addressed (such as our Gangs: The Wrong Family event held this past February).

As Women United members, your input is extremely valuable. If you have creative event or programming ideas or ideas to grow our membership, please contact our Co-Chairs.

Maia Bannan
Maia_Bannan@yahoo.com

Sue Friedman
Sue.Friedman@alz.org

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Meet Patricia Cluff

Patricia Cluff, or “Trish” as we know her, is the Associate Vice President of Marketing and Strategic Relations for the University of Virginia Health System.

She is active in our community, serving as Chair for the Charlottesville Regional Chamber of Commerce and on the Board of the Charlottesville Free Clinic. Trish also volunteers with the Center for Non-Profit Excellence and leads her team at UVA as active leaders and participants in the United Way Day of Caring, the Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign, and the Rural Area Medical Clinic in Wise, Virginia. “In all that we do, we seek to provide hope to others in their health. Each of us learns through different means the impact of losing one’s health, and how important our health is to ourselves and those whom we love.”

Trish first discovered Women United when Jennifer Feist invited her to our annual luncheon. She says she was struck by the impact in our community and the power of women coming together. “I personally believe Women United is unique in its ability to bring a diverse and dynamic group of women together in new and exciting ways.”

Her personal philosophy is similar to the mission of Women United. “It is in what we do that we serve our greater society. I believe that we can give in three key ways – through our time, resources and relationships which make connections. I attempt to do all three. In giving of my time, I seek to leverage my leadership skills and expertise. In giving of my resources, I identify non-profits which have a clear promise to those they serve, serve their constituents well, and utilize their resources wisely.”

When asked if there were any thoughts she’d like to share with her fellow Women United members, Trish had this to say: “I recently lost my mother. With her passing, I amrediscovering remarkable gifts given to me by her and my Father. They taught me to believe that I could accomplish anything that I put my heart and mind to; that it is a gift to help others. I am proud to be their daughter, an extension of their contributions and a living legacy of the gifts they gave by giving to others.”

Three Founders, Three Athenas

Congratulations to Cathy Train, Liza Borches and Sue Friedman! These three extraordinary women, all Women United Co-Founders, have been recognized by Athena International for professional excellence, leadership amongst women and devoting time and energy to non-profits in our community.

The Athena Leadership Award is presented annually by chambers of commerce and women’s organizations throughout the world. Many women are nominated in each participating community and for the past three years, The Charlottesville Regional Chamber of Commerce has selected a Women United Co-Founder as the honored recipient. Pictured above, left to right: Cathy Train (2010 winner), Sue Friedman (2012 winner) and Liza Borches (2011 winner).

The Athena Awards were presented at the annual Business Women’s Round Table (BWRT) conference, Quadruplicity. For more information, please visit www.Quadruplicity.com.
Women United’s Grant Process

At the Luncheon on September 20, Women United will be awarding a $30,000 grant to one local non-profit. Potential recipients were nominated by our Donor Members. The Grant Committee then narrowed the list to 10 organizations and sent each a Request for Proposal (RFP). Each proposal received was evaluated by the standards set forth in Women United’s charter. Four non-profits were then selected to present at our April 23 event at Roy Wheeler Realty’s offices. All Women United members were invited to attend.

Shortly after the April event, members of Women United’s Grant Committee conducted on-site visits at each organization. They asked questions, examined facilities and got a better understanding of each group’s daily operations. The Grant Committee then presented their findings, along with the original grant proposals, to our Donor Members who then cast their votes to determine which organization will receive our $30,000 grant. Women United’s two 2012 Grant Finalists are:

**Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Virginia** - The Southwood neighborhood in Albemarle County is a community in crisis, with burgeoning gang activity and youth drug use. As the leading provider of youth development services in the area, the current Southwood Club is stretched beyond capacity. Women United funds would purchase a bus for field trips and to transport kids to other Clubs.

**Jefferson Area CHiP** - CHiP is requesting $30,000 to fund the salary of a Family Support Worker/Parent Educator who will provide at-risk, low income families with home visiting and parent education around nurturing, guiding, responding, communicating and providing learning activities for their children. This one worker would serve 45-55 children aged 0-6 years in 30-35 Charlottesville/Albemarle families.

Join us on Thursday, September 20 as we announce the winning organization and award our 2012 Grant at Farmington Country Club. See page 4 of this newsletter for information on how you can attend.

**Donor Members not only get to nominate potential Grant recipients and vote on the Finalists, they are also eligible to be on the Grant Committee. For more information about grants and how you can get involved in next year’s process, please contact our Grant Committee Co-Chairs:**

Peggy Echols: Peggy.Echols.ccft@StateFarm.com or Peppy Linden: PeppyLinden@Hotmail.com

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**Teresa Sullivan is our 2012 Speaker!**

We are very excited to announce that UVA President, Teresa Sullivan, has agreed to speak at Women United’s annual Human Services Grant Award Luncheon. The Luncheon will be held on Thursday, September 20 at Farmington Country Club.

Dr. Sullivan is the first female President of the University of Virginia and the eighth person in history to hold the position. She received her doctoral degree from the University of Chicago and served in executive roles at the University of Texas and the University of Michigan before coming to UVA.

The author or co-author of six books and more than 50 scholarly articles, Dr. Sullivan’s research focuses on labor force demography, with particular emphasis on economic marginality and consumer debt.

Women United is honored that she has chosen to share her experience and passion with our members and guests.

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**2012 Grant Award Luncheon**

**Thursday, September 20, 2012**

**Farmington Country Club**

RESERVE YOUR SEATS NOW - Details on Page 4

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**CORPORATE MEMBERS**

Marjorie Adam, Adam Team Realtors
Annette Daly, So Sayeth the Queen
Yvonne Harmon, BB&T
Kathryn Kieffer, Festive Fare
Kimberly Martin, Volvo of Charlottesville
Jeanne McCusker, Home Instead Senior Care
Stacey McDonough, McDonough Law, PLLC
Sherry Williams, University Tire

**GENERAL MEMBERS**

Byrd Abbott
Karen Ahern
Molly Akeel
Nina Barnes
Carolyn Beach
Gardy Bloemers
Kathleen Bowman
Gayle Bragg
Olivia Branch
Andrea Copeland
Kristin Cory
Charlotte Dömann
Lucille Digges
Katherine Douglas
Beth Duffy-Cox
Joan Fadden
Joan Fenton
Katherine Greiner
Tina Hancock
Wendy Heitiz
Diane Hillman
Joyce Holt
Sally Humphrey
Cynthia Hurst
Lou Jordan
Vickie Karabinus
Allison Linney
Derry Miller
Christina Monfalcone
Bruce Murray
Meghan Murray
Judy Nunley
Judy Rasmussen
Linda Seaman
Judy Smith
Stacy Smith
Jeanne Stanborough
Lynn Stevenson
Susan Terwilleger
Lamar Toole
Deborah van Eersel
Mitzi Ware
Betsy Waters
Roxanne White
Kate Zirkle

**GROW OUR MEMBERSHIP**

There are many incredible women in our area and we’re always looking for new members. Please bring some friends to Women United’s 2012 Human Services Grant Award Luncheon!
Get Involved!

*Women United* is a volunteer organization and we are always looking for members who want to be more involved. To volunteer, please contact our Co-Chairs listed below:

**MEMBERSHIP**

Membership Committee volunteers are not only responsible for recruiting new members, they also represent *Women United* at our various events and work closely with Communications. We need “People” people!

**MEMBER CONNECT:** We’re looking for current *Women United* members to serve as ambassadors to our new members!

Marjorie Adam: Marjorie.Adam@Yahoo.com
Stacey McDonough: McDonough@McDonoughLawVA.com

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Communications is responsible for press releases, media relations, interview logistics, member emails, invitations and print newsletters. We need good writers!

Kim Martin: KMartin@VolvoCville.com

**EVENTS & PROGRAMMING**

Our Events Committee works with speaker logistics and the planning and execution of all *Women United* events. Whether you would like to help during events or prefer to work on the planning process, we would love to have you on the team! We’re also looking for great speaker and event ideas.

Maia Bannan: Maia_Bannan@Yahoo.com

**2012 Grant Award Luncheon**

*Women United* is very excited to announce that UVA President, Teresa Sullivan, will be the keynote speaker at our 2012 Human Services Grant Award Luncheon.

**RESERVE YOUR SEATS TODAY! WE MAY SELL OUT!**

2012 Grant Award Luncheon
Thursday, September 20
11:30am -1:30pm
Farmington Country Club

$60 member/$75 non-member
$750 for a table of 8

**SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:**

$1000 Sponsor: 2 tickets, signage at event, PowerPoint slide at event and program inclusion.

$2500 Sponsor: 4 tickets plus inclusion in media promotions and press releases prior to the event, verbal recognition and signage at event, PowerPoint slide at event and program inclusion.

Please contact Leigha Rae at the United Way: lrae@unitedwaytja.org or (434) 972-1701